

PROJECT REVIEW SHEET - EZ1

HISTORIC & CULTURAL RESOURCES REVIEW

Property / Client Name:	Willapa Bay - N. Nemah River Conservation Project, 11-1598
Worksite Name/Number:	Willapa Bay - North Nemah River (Worksite 1 of 1)
Funding Agency:	Rec. and Conserv. Office

Project Applicant	Columbia Land Trust
Contact Person	Nadia Gardner
Address	1351 Officers Row
City, State, Zip	Vancouver, WA 98661
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Funding Agency:

Organization	Rec. and Conserv. Office
Address	PO Box 40917
City, State, Zip	Olympia, WA 98504-0917
Phone	360-902-3000
Contact	Kat Moore, Email: kathryn.moore@rco.wa.gov

PLEASE DESCRIBE THE TYPE OF WORK TO BE COMPLETED

(Be as detailed as possible to avoid having to provide additional information)

Provide a detailed description of the proposed project:

The Willapa Bay-North Nemah River Conservation Project will conserve 80 acres of wildlife habitat at the confluence of North Nemah River and Willapa Bay. It is located at Highway 101 and the North Nemah River, south of South Bend in Pacific County, Washington.

The property consists of 80 acres of intertidal wetlands, riparian areas and associated upland forest. It has 1,000 feet of North Nemah River, 2,300 feet of fish-bearing stream, 30 acres of emergent salt marsh, and 20 acres of riparian habitats. The property is adjacent to 900+ acres of Willapa Bay shoreline conserved by Washington Department of Fish & Wildlife and Cascade Land Conservancy, adding to habitat connectivity.

The project will support all North Nemah River salmon as all use this lower estuarine portion of the river prior to entering the bay and then ocean. Fall and spring Chinook, chum, winter and summer steelhead, coho, and cutthroat all use the site. Just upstream, Williams Creek hosts the most important chum spawning area in Willapa Bay. The Nemah also has a production hatchery, mostly releasing coho to support the fishing industry and recreationalist. All of these fish must pass and use the property's tidelands, shoreline, wetlands and streams at least twice in their lifecycles.

If successful, CLT will acquire the property in fee simple and it will be restored and conserved for wildlife habitat in perpetuity. It is likely that traditional uses such as fishing and hunting by permission will be allowed.

Describe existing project site conditions.

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Historically, the property was highly productive estuarine wetlands, riparian areas, and old growth coniferous forest.. These types of wetlands and streams are very important salmon habitat, especially for juveniles that use them for refugia. More than 60 years ago, the lower wetlands were cleared and altered for grazing with a dike, ditches, tidegates, etc. It hasn't been grazed for many years. Over time the infrastructure has degraded and the property now regularly floods. Due to the alterations, fish access and use is limited. Conservation will allow for restoration and improved fish habitat.

Describe any proposed ground disturbing activities. That is, will a tool(s) be used to move earth (soil, rock, gra
No ground disturbing activities will occur.

Will buildings be altered or demolished? If so please complete a DAHP Determination of Eligibility EZ2 form for each building affected by the proposed project and attach the form to your project in PRISM. <http://www.dahp.wa.gov/pages/Documents/Sites.htm>
No

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If no PRISM map, please attach a copy of the relevant portion of a 7.5 series
USGS quad map and outline the project impact area.
(USGS Quad maps are available on-line at <http://www.topozone.com>)

Worksite Location (identified with star):

Address: None

Township: 12N

Range: 10W

Section: 23

City:

County: Pacific

Latitude: 46.51

Longitude: -123.88

